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BRIEFER ARTICLES

NAMES OF NORTH AMERICAN TREES

The following changes in the names of North American trees as published in the *Silva of North America* and in the *Manual of the trees of North America* are made necessary in following the rules of botanical nomenclature adopted by the Vienna Congress of 1905.

Magnolia foetida Sarg. = *M. GRANDIFLORA* L.

Fremontodendron Californicum Cov. = *FREMONTIA CALIFORNICA* Torr. (Silva 14:97).

Aesculus glabra var. *Buckleyi* Sarg. = *A. GLABRA* var. *ARGUTA* Robs. (Silva 14:97).

Rhus hirta Sudw. = *R. TYPHINA* L. (Silva 14:99).

Ichthyomethia P. Br. being one of the genera excluded by the Congress without regard to its priority, *I. pisifera* A. S. Hitch. = *PISCIDIA PISCIPULA* Sarg. (Garden and Forest 4:436).

Prunus integrifolia Sarg. (Man. 531) must be retained if this tree is considered specifically distinct from *P. ilicifolia* Walp.; but if it is considered a variety of that species it becomes var. *OCCIDENTALIS* Brandegee, and the variety *integrifolia* Sudw. disappears except as a synonym.

Pyrus rivularis Doug. ex Hook. = *MALUS FUSCA* (Rafin.) C. K. Schn.

Amelanchier Canadensis var. *spicata* Sarg. = *A. CANADENSIS* var. *ROTUNDIFOLIA* Torr. and Gray. *A. obovata* Ashe (Man. 61) = *A. INTERMEDIA* Spach.

Chytraculia P. Br. being one of the excluded genera, *C. Chytraculia* Sarg. (Man. 629) = *CALYPTRANTHES CHYTRACULIA* Sw., as published in the *Silva* (5:36).

Icacorea Aubl. being one of the excluded genera, *I. paniculata* Sudw. = *ARDISIA PICKERINGIA* Nutt.

Morodendron Britt. = *HALESIA* L.; *M. Carolinum* Britt. = *H. CAROLINA* L.; and *M. dipterum* Britt. = *H. DIPTERA* Ell.

Catalpa Catalpa Karst. = *C. BIGNONIOIDES* Walt.; *C. speciosa* Engelm. must be written *C. SPECIOSA* Warder ex Engelm.

Sassafras Sassafras Karst. = *S. VARIIFOLIUM* (Salisb.) Otto Kuntze.

Ulmus Thomasi Sarg. (Silva 14:102) = *U. RACEMOSA* Thomas.

Toxylon Raf. being one of the excluded genera, *T. pomiferum* Raf. = *MACLURA POMIFERA* C. K. Schn.

Hicoria being one of the excluded genera, *H. Pecan* Britt. = *CARYA PECAN* C. K. Schn.; *H. Texana* Le Conte = *C. TEXANA* C. K. Schn.; *H. minima* Britt. = *C. CORDIFOLIA* C. K. Schn.; *H. myristiciformis* Britt. = *C. MYRISTICIFORMIS* Nutt.; *H. aquatica* Britt. = *C. AQUATICA* Nutt.; *H. ovata* Britt. = *C. ovata* C. K. Schn.; *H. Carolinae-septentrionalis* Ashe = *C. CAROLINAE-SEPTENTRIONALIS* C. K. Schn.; *H. laciniosa* Sarg. = *C. LACINIOSA* C. K. Schn.; *H. alba* Britt. = *C. ALBA* K. Koch; *H. glabra* Britt. = *C. GLABRA* C. K. Schn.; *H. villosa* Ashe = *C. VILLOSA* C. K. Schn.

Quercus minor Sarg. = *Q. STELLATA* Wang.; *Q. acuminata* Sarg. = *Q. MUEHLENBERGII* Engelm.; *Q. platanoides* Sudw. = *Q. BICOLOR* Michx.; *Q. brevirostra* Sarg. = *Q. DURANDII* Buckl.; *Q. Californica* Cooper = *Q. KELLOGGII* Newb.; *Q. digitata* Sudw. = *Q. CUNEATA* Wang.; *Q. nana* Sarg. = *Q. ILICIFOLIA* Wang.; *Q. brevifolia* Sarg. = *Q. CINEREA* Michx.

Fagus Americana Sweet = *FAGUS FERRUGINEA* Ait. (1789), but an older name, *FAGUS GRANDIFOLIA* Ehrh. (1788), should be adopted.

Alnus Oregonia Nutt. = *A. RUBRA* Bong.

Yucca arborescens Trel. = *Y. BREVIFOLIA* Engelm.; *Y. radiosa* Trel. = *Y. ELATA* Engelm.

Tumion being one of the excluded genera, *T. taxifolium* Greene = *TORREYA TAXIFOLIA* Arn.; *T. Californicum* Greene = *TORREYA CALIFORNICA* Torr.

Sequoia Wellingtonia Seem. = *SEQUOIA GIGANTEA* Dec.

Pinus quadrifolia Sudw. = *P. PARRYANA* Engelm.; *P. attenuata* Lemmon = *P. TUBERCULATA* Gord.; *P. divaricata* Du Mont de Courset = *P. BANKSIANA* Lamb.

Larix Americana Michx. = *L. LARICINA* K. Koch.

Picea rubens Sarg. = *P. RUBRA* Dietr.; *P. Parryana* Sarg. = *P. MENZIESII* Engelm. (not Carr.).

Pseudotsuga mucronata Sudw. = *P. TAXIFOLIA* Britt.

The fact that *Zygia* and *Bucida*, two of Patrick Browne's genera, have been omitted from the excluded list of genera shows how a list of this sort, prepared by a few men largely by personal preference and without regard to priority of publication, can become unsatisfactory in practice. *Zygia* is the oldest name for the genus usually called *Pithecolobium* Mart., and *Bucida* is the oldest name for the more familiar *Terminalia* L. They are in the same case as *Ichthyomethia*, *Chytraculia*, and other genera of Patrick Browne which are excluded. Moreover, the retention of *Zygia* is complicated by the fact that the name has been used for an African genus different from *Pithecolobium*, and that it is now generally recognized as the name for a section in the genus *Albizia* Durazz.

On the whole the few changes in the names of North American trees necessitated by the adoption of the Vienna code are not greatly to be regretted. The substitution of *Carya* for the now generally accepted and excellent name of *Hicoria* for the hickories is unfortunate, although it cannot lead to much confusion. More serious is the change in the name of the Rocky Mountain spruce, now known and cultivated in all northern countries as *Picea pungens* Engelm. (*P. Parryana* Sarg. of the *Silva*). The name of this tree must now become *P. Menziesii* Engelm. (not Carr.), although this unfortunately is the name by which *P. Sitchensis* Carr. of the northwest coast, was long known, and is still cultivated in many European countries, especially in Great Britain, where it is a favorite ornamental tree.—C. S. SARGENT, *Arnold Arboretum*.

A REMARKABLE CASE OF POLYSPERMY IN FERNS (WITH ONE FIGURE)

While studying the embryology of ferns during the past year in Indiana University, some prothallia of *Onoclea struthiopteris* were supplied me, which had been preserved ten hours after the introduction of spermatozoids. From one of these prothallia especially good preparations were obtained, showing various stages in the development of archegonia up to normal fecundation. Two cases of polyspermy also were found, of which the most remarkable one is shown in the accompanying figure. No less than seven spermatozoids were counted, entirely within the nuclear membrane and occupying the central part of the nucleus. Nothing in the appearance of the egg, either in the cytoplasm or nucleus, indicated an abnormal condition of the egg or egg nucleus. The chromatin network was broken up and irregularly massed, but it could hardly have been otherwise after the entrance of so many spermatozoids. Four of the spermatozoids, as shown in the figure, were obtained entire in one section, three others being cut in two and lying in the neighboring sections. Three spermatozoids, which did not succeed in entering the egg, lie in the concavity just above it.—WILLIAM L. WOODBURN, *Indiana University*.



Section of egg cell of *Onoclea struthiopteris*, showing seven sperms (four entire and sections of the other three) entirely within the egg nucleus and three sperms in the concavity above the egg cell.